MAY 2022 VOLUME 1, ISSUE 3

# THE BRIDGE

*A monthly newsletter connecting CSUN public health students, faculty, alumni, and communities*

*Image provided by Canva. Credit to @rattanakun*

## A Message from the Editors

**Written by Anthony Avalos & Samantha Welton**

It has been an honor and privilege to represent CSUN by launching the program's first newsletter. This issue is dedicated to faculty and students who persevered and adapted to new and changing learning environments and an evolving public health landscape. Now we can celebrate each other's successes as we come to the end of the semester. The Bridge is honored to celebrate with you.

In addition to graduation celebrations, this issue will cover the program, alumni, students, faculty highlights, and other public health news. Be on the lookout for our summer newsletter!

Here's to building bridges!

## Newsletter Highlights

Message from the Editors

Spotlight Central

Celebrating You: Class of 2022

What's Next

This Is Public Health

Upcoming News and Events

SUBSCRIBE

# SPOTLIGHT CENTRAL

If you would like to nominate someone for our monthly spotlights, submit **our content form**!

## CSU HEALTH POLICY CONFERENCE

**The Bridge is excited to highlight Dr. Suzi Spear and several Health Science students for attending the 2022 CSU Health Policy Conference at CSULA!**

**Submitted by: Faidat Olabanji, MPH Student and Giselle Maturan, BSPH Student**

Fourteen Health Sciences students (11 public health and 3 health administration) recently attended the CSU Health Policy Conference on April 19, 2022 at California State University, Los Angeles (CSULA). CSUN students joined students from numerous other CSU campuses at the day-long event. Presenters included Dr. Mark Ghaly, Secretary of the California Health and Human Services Agency, Dr. Barbara Ferrer, Director of the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health, Dr. Mantu Davis, Health Officer for Los Angeles County, and several panelists from the California Department of Public Health. The conference provided students with deeper knowledge of public health and healthcare issues facing the state. The speakers shared inspirational stories about their careers and experiences working in public health. Dr. Walter Zelman of CSULA Department of Public Health led an interactive session on tools for influencing public policy. Students were inspired to learn that there are jobs in health policy and that many sectors outside of the health field can work towards the betterment of communities. Dr. Suzi Spear accompanied the students.

Rachel Bradford

Katherine Le

**Left to Right: Mirna Solano, Gissele Hernandez, Taseer Sadiq, Sandra Rivera, Marta Rivas, Faidat Olabanji, Daniel Magana**

# SPOTLIGHT CENTRAL

ASHLYN SOUTHERLAND, CLASS OF 2022

## UNDERGRAD SPOTLIGHT
## Ashlyn Southerland

Ashlyn interns at the Health Equity Research and Education (HERE) Center and works with their communication team to publish their weekly newsletter, The HERE Center Weekly, which highlights CSUN and local community resources/events centered around health equity, social justice, research, and education. She assisted in the virtual panel session titled, **From Paper to Policy: Moving Your Research to Advocacy**, which allowed faculty and students to hear insights from Dr. Kacie Blackman, Dr. Jose Vargas, and Kim Roth.

Additionally, Ashlyn writes grant proposals to support health policy and maternal mortality, with a focus on the prevalence of baby-friendly hospitals and maternal and infant mortalities among African American communities.

After graduation, Ashlyn will be conducting cancer health disparities research at Cedars-Sinai's Samuel Oschin Comprehensive Cancer Institute through the Undergraduates Gaining Research Opportunities for the Cancer Workforce (U-GROW) Program. She also plans to take both the CHES and GRE exams to gain further experience in research, statistical data collection, and service learning initiatives.

*As someone who had to experience multiple family members battle cancer, neurocognitive disorders & chronic gynecological/gastrointestinal diseases, studying & working in public health allows me to seek ways in which I could support current & emerging preventive measures and advocate for wellness in various communities.*

## ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT
## Dr. Dan Eller

Dr. Dan Eller (B.S. California State University, Northridge, 1984; MPH, 1987; Ed.D. University of California, Santa Barbara, 2010) is a Professor Emeritus of Public Relations in the Journalism Department at California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo. With 25 years of industry experience in public relations in the public sector with the State of California as Director of Communications with California State Parks, he authored and co-authored five juried journal articles, one book chapter, and presented twelve juried research papers at academic conferences.

Dr. Eller believes his studies in public health provided the necessary academic background for a successful career in community engagement and public relations. He recommends that any BSPH and MPH students look into career opportunities in public relations and communication.

If you have any questions or interest in using public health in public relations and communications, feel free to contact Dr. Dan Eller at **(805) 712-4854** or **deller@calpoly.edu**

DAN ELLER, ED.D, MPH, CHES

*Public health is engaging in two-way symmetrical communications with our publics, facilitating a dialogue with our publics to build trust, resolve conflicts, and educate the public to motivate optimal well-being.*

# GRADUATES

## class of 2022

### COLLEGE OF HEALTH AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

### MAY 23, 2022

### BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN PUBLIC HEALTH

Christopher Abrego
Elodia Acevedo
Ruby Aceves
Bryan Agus
Jessica Ahmed
Chikwado Akpunonu
Ashley Alvarez
Isabel Ambrosio
Kayla Anderson
Nathan Andrade
Luvia Angel
Stephanie Arau
Anahit Ardjian
Jessica Arellano
Janeth Arevalo
Jason Atienza
Marilyn Attanasio Meza
Minele Avakian
Anthony Avalos
Irene Avila
Andree Ayala
Sevana Bagramian
Jayro Balderas
Celeste Barcenas
Manuela Barragan
Giselle Becerra
Meagan Berberian
Brianna Black
Hugo Blanco
Alura Meobe Bonifacio
Lusine Boyajian
Kyle Brammer
Sara Brock
Tyra Brown
Diana Bueno Espindola
Han Bui
Diana Camey
Karla Cano
Jhenifer Carpio-Noguera
Guadalupe Carrillo
Alexis Cassio
Christian Castaneda Navarro
Yamileth Castro
Angeline Cayanan
Genesy Chaidez
Taguhi Chalikyan
Ricardo Chavez
Angelica Cisneros Dominguez
Cassidy Coleman
Nancy Contreras

Kimberly Corpeno
Daniela Crespo-Munoz
Jason Cruz Velasco
Louise Ann Cuaresma
Lilie Dadayan
Elisa Dahan
Saman Darian
Jeanne Danielle David
Marian De Leon
Paola De Leon
Jessica De Los Angeles
Marisol De Santiago
Oksanna Dekeyan
Alyssa Destasio
Shawn Nicholas Divina
Ryan Eggena
Saad Elkhadraj
Genesis Espinoza
Leticia Eufracio
Rosa Fabian
Edris Farhadi
Jerome Felizardo
Kimberly Figueroa
Jasmine Flores
Eduardo Flores
Chantal Fonseca
Mary Fossett
Cynthia Franco
Millenna Fule
Kaitlyn Galeano
Natalie Gallegos
Asya Galstyan
Annalie Garcia
Sarah Garcia
Arturo Garcia
Belinda Garcia
Isabella Garcia Fernandez
Karen Garcia Jazo
Andrea Garcia Ortiz
Brenda Garcia Ortiz
Cristina Garcia-Damian
Gabriel Garello
Fernando Gaytan
Micaela Gimenez
Griselda Gines Bautista
Landren Gipson
Angelica Gonzalez
Jasmine Gonzalez
Aubrianna Graham
Samya Griffin

Lissette Guerrero
Stephanie Guerrero
Matthew Halmer
Taylor Halperin
Yael Han
Jaqueline Haro
Victoria Haroutunian
Brittany Hassen
Vanessa Hernandez
Aracely Hernandez
Celeste Hernandez
Karen Hernandez
Stacie Hernandez
Natalie Hernandez
Monica Hernandez Ramirez
Racquel Holloway
Vivian Huynh
Subaina Imran
Melissa Interiano
Brandon James
Amanda Jaramillo
Deepankar Jassi
Sara Jermakyan
Alexandra Jones
Cristina Jovel
Ashley Jue
Christina Keshishian
Eelin Khurelbaatar
Papiya Kundu
Melanie Lancheros
Jazmine Lara
Karina Lara
Isaura Leal Sanchez
Chynna Lloyd
Genesis Lopez
Kimberly Luna
Gladys Mabalot
Brittney Macon
Danielle Magallanes
Nazar Makadsi
Talin Malians
Melissa Mandujano
Daisy Manon Gonzalez
Jonathan Martinez
Giselle Maturan
Brian Mazariegos
Esther McIlhenny
Alexis McKeever
Guadalupe Medina
Santoshy Mehra

# CONGRATULATIONS

## class of 2022

## BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN PUBLIC HEALTH

Sapna Mehta
Kristine Melendez
Werke Melese
Mary Melikian
Richard Mendiola
Karina Mendoza
Julian Mendoza
Andy Mendoza
Allan Mercado
Melissa Meza Munoz
Karla Mijango
Emane Mohamed
Samantha Moore
Stephanie Moreno
Maya Morgan
Jesse Moua
Bolor Munkhbayarlakh
Ania Murphy
Omar Narvaez
Mahsa Navvabi
Cristina Negrete
Stila Neqadimos
Nghi Nguyen
Roberto Nieto
Isabella Norris
Kenny Nunez
Diana Oganessian
Mia Ognjanovic
Blessing Okpalaugo
Alexis Oliva Vergara
Elizabet Oliveros
Silvia Olmedo-Perez
Nohemi Orozco
Janett Ortega
Christopher Ortiz
Wendpanga Ouedraogo
Edwin Pacheco
Adrian Padilla
Anai Paxtor Sandoval
Shelsy Perez
Stephanie Perez
Roscoe Phan
Caroline Plaza
Jaiden Preston
Sergio Pulido
Suzette Quijada
Esmeralda Quintero
Jesreen Ragual
Ruben Ramos
Livnat Refael

Emilio Renteria
Larissa Reyes
Ana Reyes
Madeline Reyes
Adam Reyes
Imani Ridgle
Allisah Rivera
Jocelyn Rivera Lopez
Kennedy Roberts
Isela Rodriguez
Annamarie Rodriguez
Jessica Rodriguez
Daisy Rojo Perez
Belen Romero Morales
Andrea Rueda
Emily Ruiz
Aracely Ruiz
Diana Russ
Adrian Sagun
Salma Salazar
Dannia Sanchez
Hilda Sanchez
Brian Sanchez
Keyrin Sanchez Rosas
Darrel Sare
Mia Searcie
Ricky Sebastian
Kelsey Sedgwick
Kendra Serrano
Amanda Servin
Nicholas Sezate
Arpine Shaidzhanyan
Amaatullah Shariff
Shelly Shtern
Jennifer Silvas
Melanie Sinaei
Auria Soils-Coleman
Mirna Solano
Vanessa Soto
Ashlyn Southerland
Shea Steele-Phillips
Sara Suchite
Catherine Faith Sunpayco
Rikkia Sykes
Selamawit Tadesse
Dustin Tan
Uriel Tapia
Danielle Tejada
Leticia Themelis
Shanairah Thomas

Kate Tirado-Gonzalez
Raquel Tobon Romero
Elizabeth Tod
Jessica Torres
Jasmine Torres
Reanna Torres
Julie Tran
Jazmine Trejo
Andrea Trejo Vasquez
Akramkhudzha Umarov
Alejandra Valdivia
Precila Valenzuela
David Valera
Michael Vallin
Jocelyn Vasquez
Maribel Vasquez
Crystal Vasquez
Yamileth Vasquez
Asucely Velasquez
Patricia Velazquez
Diana Venegas
Diana Venegas
Amber Verdin
Jorge Vigil
Alisa Vongphaseng
Tristin Waggener
Samantha Welton
Schollo Whitaker
Jie Yang
Eden Yirdaw
Tamia Young
Janett Yu
Paris Zadoorian
Moheb Zaki
Fuaduz Zaman

## AWARD WINNERS!

The Bridge congratulates the following BSPH students for receiving scholarships!

**Myron Liberman Academic Distinction Award:**
Tristin Waggener

**Holly Hunt Health Education Scholarship:**
Landren Gipson
Maria Garcia Gonzalez

**Brown School Global Health Scholars Award:**
Caroline Plaza

# GRADUATES

## class of 2022

COLLEGE OF HEALTH AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

MAY 23, 2022

MASTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH

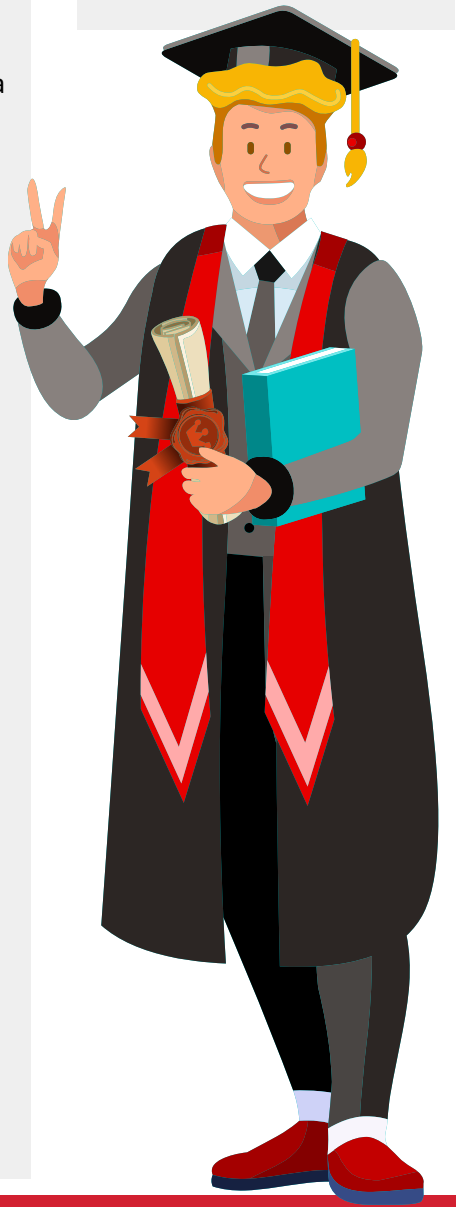
### APPLIED EPIDEMIOLOGY

Mayra Cornejo
Sandy Garcia
Lyudmyla Golets
George Holliday
Rachael LaCom
Travis Martinez
Tiffany McKinley
Sana Mirza
Katherine Orojian
Lorena Reynaga
Mia Risberg
Alexander Rueda
Priscilla Salcedo
Daniela Salinas-Mosombite
Jean Spielman
Kennedy Stewart
Spencer Tinoco
Agapi Tshamjyan
Vickent Ung
Eric Vargas
Imelda Vianzon
Jazmin Victoria
Jonathan Watts

### COMMUNITY HEALTH EDUCATION

Adizatu Alhassan
Alexandra Aranda
Idania Brown
Yerin Cho
Wyconda Cotton-Curtis
Jadwiga Czachor
Diana Dudar
Briana Flores
Jessica Galura
Jenia Ghazarian
Stephany Gonzalez-Anaya
Patricia Hernandez
Roshanak Hoghoughi
Kathryn Honey Krueger
Stephanie Anne Leyva
Kimberly Mendoza
Yvonne Nebechi
Sharmiya Odeh
Faidat Olabanji
Karen Orellana
Beatrice Realiza
Leticia Reyna-Terry
Christabelle Rodriguez
Richard Salazar
Roy Taheri
Tatiana Tavitian
Sebrin Yousef
Jacqueline Zacarias
Nina Aponte
Ayanna Armatrading
Ernesto Ayala
Roberta Blaylock
Sonja Chapman
Karla Corado
Jessica Dennis-leigh
Hayley Diep
Yvette Duenas
Victoria Hartman
Deanna Huynh
Mariele Ignacio
Mink Lee
Shaina Lee
Susan Lopez
Evelyn Navarro
Monique Peralta
Oishee Perera
Sheila Phan
Alexis Raziano
Miriam Sanchez

Vanessa Sanchez Medina
Derek Slama
Stephanie Stone
Prabhleen Suri
Maria Valenzuela
Melissa Vega
Cristina Vega Mata



# CLASS OF 2022
# MPH HOODING CEREMONY HIGHLIGHTS

## IMELDA VIANZON

I have no doubt that the graduating class of 2022 will go on to achieve amazing things. I want you to remember the connections you made and the support you received. Whether it be classmates, professors, or mentors, know one thing: we will always be here to support each other, and that's what makes this cohort special. Congratulations graduates!

## STUDENT 2022 SPEAKERS

## RICHARD SALAZAR

I absolutely could not have accomplished this great achievement without the support of my mom, my partner, my mentor Dr. Emetu, the rest of the CSUN MPH faculty, and the many cohorts I collaborated with on all of our group projects. So to all of you, thank you. I am beyond grateful for the support and guidance I've received from you in one way or another these last few years.

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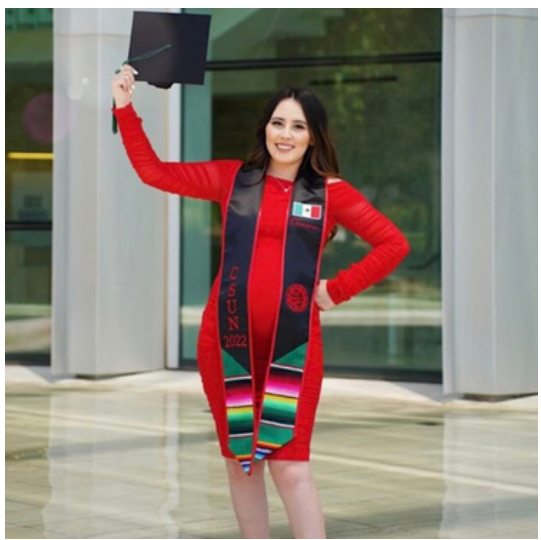
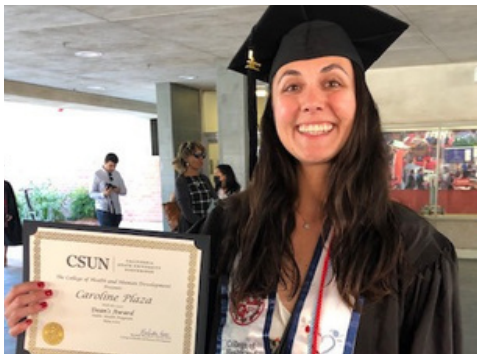
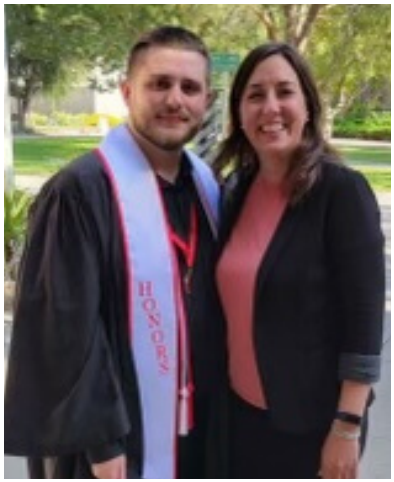
# CLASS OF 2022
# MPH HOODING CEREMONY HIGHLIGHTS

# CLASS OF 2022
# COMMENCEMENT HIGHLIGHTS



# CLASS OF 2022
# COMMENCEMENT HIGHLIGHTS





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# CLASS OF 2022
# COMMENCEMENT HIGHLIGHTS

# What's Next?

**Landren Gipson**

Will attend CSUN's Tseng MPH program beginning fall 2022

**Alexis McKeever**

Accepted to multiple universities to pursue an MPH/MSW dual degree

**Jeanne David**

Will attend UC San Francisco this fall to work towards a Doctor of Pharmacy

**Kennedy Stewart**

HIRED
Epi Analyst with LA County DPH: Maternal Child & Adolescent Health

**Dani Brown**

Accepted to UCSD/SDSU Ph.D. in Public Health: Health Behavior

**Ayanna Armatrading**

HIRED
Workplace Health and Safety Specialist at Amazon

**Carolina Plaza**

Will attend Washington University: MPH Global Health

**Kimberly Luna**

Passed the CHES exam

# THIS IS PUBLIC HEALTH

The Bridge will share recommended readings, podcasts, and job/internship opportunities every month! Click the underlined hyperlinks below to learn more!

## WHAT WE READ IS INFLUENTIAL

Action on Patient Safety can Reduce Health Inequities

Global Disparities Persist in Opioid Painkiller Access

Cancer Screening Prevalence and Associated Factors Among US Adults

## WHAT WE LISTEN TO IS INSPIRING

Pronouns Are a Public Health Issue

Declaring Racism a Public Health Crisis

How Russia's Invasion of Ukraine is Causing a Global Food Crisis

Black Public Health

## WHAT WE WATCH IS MOTIVATIONAL

A Recipe for Health Equity in the 21st Century: Renaisa Anthony at TEDxOmaha

For the Kids: Leo & Giulia- THE VACCINES

Barbara Ferrer: Gaining Public Trust through Community Partnerships

## WHERE WE WORK MATTERS

UCLA Program Coordinator - Masters of Public Health

Children's Hospital Los Angeles Health Education Associate I

Dignity Health Community Health Educator

Marilyn Magaram Center Health Educator

## WHERE WE INTERN, WE PREPARE

Los Angeles County of Public Health Internship & Volunteer 2022 Catalog

AIDS Healthcare Foundation Public Health Research Intern

The California Wellness Foundation 2022 Internship

# Hello June

## UPCOMING EVENTS

| S | M | T | W | T | F | S |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 |
| 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 |
| 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |
| 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | |

| | |
|---|---|
| 2 | Virtual Event: Plain Language Foundations: All Things Numbers & How to Make Content Related to Math More Clear |
| 3 | Webinar: Breastfeeding is Also a Men's Issue! |
| 7 | 2022 National Breastfeeding Conference & Convening | June 7 - 9 |
| 13 | 2022 SOPHE / CDC Digital IHE Academy | June 13 - 16 |
| 14 | Advancing Policy to Improve Health |
| | WEAR BLUE DAY to Celebrate Men's Health Week | June 17 |

June is National Safety Month: A National Safety Council Initiative

June is PRIDE Month! (LA Pride 2022)

2022 - July and August

6-week summer SAS workshop

# Public Health SAS Summer 2022 Workshop

The 6-week summer SAS workshop is designed to introduce MPH students and alumni (MPH) to the basics of SAS coding and statistical concepts required for effective public health research using small and large datasets.

The seminar will be comprised of a lecture and in class assignments designed to build students' competencies and comfort with SAS, the preferred statistical software of the state of California and county of Los Angeles county public health departments. There are pre-requisites, please find the full description on csun.edu/alumni/chapter/publichealth for details.

**DATES:**
**6 Saturdays, July 16 - Aug 20**
**Time :**
**1:00 p.m. - 3:45 p.m.**
**Location:**
**Option of attending in-person (on the CSUN campus) or virtually**

Fees:
MPH Alumni $300
Public Health Practitioner (non-CSUN Alumni) $400
CSUN MPH Student $150

CSUN ALUMNI

SCAN ME

**(818) 677-CSUN**
**alumni@csun.edu**
**csun.edu/alumni/events**

CSUN

# SIGN UP FOR OUR NEWSLETTERS!

## BUILDING BRIDGES

**The Bridge** is the official CSUN Public Health Program newsletter and the go-to resource to keep you informed and engaged with public health updates!

## REAL, RELEVANT, & TAILORED NEWS

Useful, fun, and informative public health stories, highlights, updates, news, job opportunities, and much more every month!

# SUBSCRIBE NOW

Click the link below to subscribe to our email list and get monthly access to our newsletters!

**SIGN UP**

# GOT A STORY TO SHARE?

Let's stay informed! Feel free to contribute to The Bridge by filling out our content form so we all stay updated and connected!

SCAN TO ACCESS CONTENT FORM